essential that the scale be substantially increased to increase visibility. It can be said in the overall assessment that the PA/PP programme was not very effective due to various reasons. Some of them are as under:

(a) The allocations of funds to the non-core activities (low cost sanitation, crematoria, river front development) in the YAP is very small compared to the core activities (sewage treatment plant, interception & diversion). In order to have a visibility and effectiveness an optimal investment in non-core activities is essential as it is the non-core activity with which normally the general public is associated with and can actively participate.

(b) The means used to reach out to the public are not very effective. It is suggested that small films are made to make the people aware and publications in local languages should be made in local newspapers, to reach the masses.

(c) For continued success of the YAP, it is essential that project is made self-sustaining in the long run. This can happen only when the public is willing to share the cost of keeping Yamuna clean with greater public awareness and participation.

TBGRI as National Institute

1765. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute, Thiruvanantapuram, Kerala for elevating the TBGRI into a National Institute, as the garden is unique in its setup as well as rich in flora of the tropics spread in a 300 acre natural forest land; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests received a proposal for elevation of Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI) as National Institute. The Ministry, however, accords the status of National Centre of Excellence to institutions of repute in the country working in the field of ecology and

environment. Since Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI) fulfilled the criterion, it was nominated as a Centre of Excellence five years back and was provided financial assistance for various activities. However, no funds were released to the Centre during 2000-2002 owing to some complaints. Subsequently, after the inquiry permission was given to utilise the unspent money. The Institute, however, did not spend the money for the earmarked purposes like purchase of equipment and construction of herbarium-cum-museum building etc.

Release of forest land for wind power project and mini hydel station

1766. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: *Will the Minister of* ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for diversion of forests land for establishing a 10 MW Wind Power Project by M/s. Subhash Projects and Marketing Limited, a Mini Hydel Station by M/s. Sandur Power Company Pvt. Ltd., and Wind Farm Unit by M/s. Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd.,were submitted to Government; and

(b) if so, by when the proposals are expected to be approved by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The proposal for diversion of 65.74 ha. forest land for establishment of 10 MW wind power project in favour of M/s. Subhash Projects and Marketing Ltd. in District Gadag, Karnataka has been accorded in-principle approval on 05.08.2002. The proposal for diversion of 4.90 ha. forest land for establishment of Varahi Tail Race Mini Hydel Station in favour of M/s. Sandur Power Company Pvt. Ltd. in District Udupi, Karnataka has been accorded approval on 18.07.2002. The proposal for diversion of 19.94 ha. forest land for establishment of Wind Farm Unit in favour of M/s. Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd. in Karnataka has been accorded in-principal approval on 12.12.2002.